Narjes Al-Zahli

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EDUCATION

Columbia University   **New York, New York**
Bachelor of Arts, Degree in Computer Science and Psychology   Expected May 2023

- **Cognitive Science Coursework:** Research Methods | Cognitive Neuroscience | Consciousness Science | Evolution of Intelligence & Consciousness | Evolutionary Psychology | Brain & Language
- **Computer Science Coursework:** Artificial Intelligence| Computer Vision | Natural Language Processing | Applied Machine Learning | Computational Robotics | Databases | Data Structures | Linear Algebra | Multi-Variable Calculus
- **Activities:** International Honor Society in Psych | Women in Science | Effective Altruism Fellowship | AI Safety Group | Rewriting The Code

EXPERIENCE

Hands-On Neuroscience in Paris with Columbia University   *May 2023 – June 2023*
- Rotated around top research labs in the Paris Brain Institute (PICNIC, DreamTeam, FrontLab, ARAMIS).
- Designed, conducted and analyzed research studies that draw on current state-of-the-art technological advancements in computational neuroscience and the study of consciousness.

Researcher in Global Behavioral Science Program (GLOBES)
At the University of Cambridge   *Jun 2022 – Sept 2022*
- Designed an experimental method to collect data about positive deviance from over 22 countries.
- Cleaned, recoded, visualized and analyzed data using chi-square testing, ANOVA testing, multinomial multivariable logistic regression, Bayesian Model Averaging and more.
- Dissected literature and collaborated with an international team to refine research direction.
- Wrote two papers on positive deviance and cognitive biases. One has been published in Scientific Reports while the other in the Behavioral and Brain Sciences Journal.

Researcher at Davachi Lab at Columbia University   *May 2022 – Nov 2022*
- Explored literature on unconscious memory relearning.
- Refined an experimental design to explore the update of implicitly-formed memories.
- Recruited and ran experiments on human subjects using a computer-vision, eye-tracking algorithm.

Teaching Assistant at Columbia University   *Jan 2021 – May 2023*
- Discrete Mathematics with Prof. Ansaf Salleb-Aouissi (Computer Science department):
    - Developed coursework and guided students with problems on proofs, set and graph theory and more.
- Evolutionary Psychology with Prof. Lawrence Ian Reed (Psychology department):
    - Explored the Theory of Evolution to help students answer deep questions about the human mind.
- Physics for Poets with Prof. Szabolcs Marka (Physics department):
    - Created courseworks to introduce modern physics concepts, from quantum mechanics to cosmology.

Scientific Review Editor in Grey Matters Neuroscience Journal   *Jan 2022 – Sept 2022*
- Verified scientific integrity of scientific articles submitted to the journal.
- Collaborated to publish an article on the Integrated Information Theory of Consciousness.

International Scholar From the Takatuf Scholars Program   **August 2016 – Present**
- Takatuf is a competitive program that prepares Oman's most talented youth for personal and professional success, through career and research training.
- Selected as one of 2 students nationally to receive a full scholarship for boarding school and college.
- Developed a retail website to empower economic independence of women in my local town.

SKILLS

Programing Languages: Java, Python, C/C++, R, JavaScript, MATLAB, PostgreSQL, Assembly
Machine Learning:
- Software: PyTorch, Keras, TensorFlow
- Computer Vision: Image Segmentation, Optical Flow, Convolutional Neural Networks
- Natural Language Processing: Dependency Parsing, Transformers
- Computational Robotics: PyBullet, Path Planning, Imitation Learning

Other: GitHub | Databases | Linux Environment | Web and App Development | Google Cloud platform | MEG Software | EEG
Languages: Standard and Colloquial Arabic (native) | English (fluent)

AWARDS

- Recipient of Distributed Research Undergraduate Experience (DRUE) Scholarship
- Takatuf International Scholarship
- Dean's List at Columbia University
- Oman's Physics Olympiad National Champion
- Gold medal in Oman's Scientific Knowledge Competition

PUBLICATIONS

- Ruggeri, K., Ashcroft-Jones, S., Landini, G. A. R., Al-Zahli, N., ... & Stock, F. (2022). Poor but not by choice (s): The persistence of cognitive biases across economic groups. (paper link)
- Ruggeri, K., Symeonidou, A., Pelica, S., Al-Zahli, N., ... & Ashcroft-Jones, S. (2022). The psychology and policy of overcoming economic inequality. (paper link)